

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No. 8

meeting date: TUESDAY, 7 JANUARY 2020  
title: RECYCLING REPORT  
submitted by: JOHN HEAP – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: ADRIAN HARPER – HEAD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide Members with an update on recycling and to give Members an opportunity to approve the District Grant Fund Application.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities – To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Following several new measures including the collection of pots, tubs and trays, staff training and enforcement, the collection of co-mingled materials (glass, cans and plastic) has increased by 34% from September to the end of October, an increase of 66 tonnes. This welcomed increase has meant a 7.6% increase in our recycling rate for Household Waste sent for Reuse, Recycling or Composting. Quarter 1 recycling rate was 30.1% which previously left Ribble Valley at the bottom of the Lancashire Authorities, however the Quarter 2 percentage is 37.6.

2.2 A knock-on effect from this increase in recycling is that the amount of general waste produced per household (ie the waste sent to landfill) has reduced from 156.44kg per household to 145.66kg, 6.9% less waste going to landfill.

2.3 As reported at last Committee our intention is to submit a bid to Lancashire County Council for a District Grant Fund of up to £20,000.

## 3 ISSUES

3.1 Guidance has now been provided by Lancashire County Council for the District Grant Fund Applications.

3.2 Our bid is based on the following proposals:

- Provision of a free 240litre bin to Educational Establishments to encourage the separation of the waste generated.
- Provision of recycling bins at Care Homes and sheltered accommodation sites to encourage the separation of their waste. This waste is classified as domestic waste and it is the opinion of officers that it should be included in the bid.

- Provision of bigger bins to households of more than 4 people
- Measures to provide opportunities for recycling to our “lilac sack households”
- Publicity regarding waste reduction and recycling
- Extension of our “bring sites” network for additional recyclate materials

3.3 Please note that the officer dealing with the bid at LCC does not believe the first 2 proposals above are within the scope of increasing domestic recycling rates, and for this reason they may be rejected.

3.4 To support the provision of a bigger blue recycling bin for households of more than 4 persons, we have some information already for the number of households who have obtained a larger residual bin (more than 5 persons). Work will need to be carried out to highlight the over 4 person households.

3.5 Research is currently being carried out to identify which of the 880 lilac sack customers are now able to receive bins at their property for the disposal of their waste and recyclate. These residents currently are unable to recycle at home and therefore have to take any recycling to the local Household Waste Recycling Centres or the remaining Council bring sites. These bins will be provided free of charge.

3.6 LCC are keen for districts to produce new leaflets for residents regarding recycling, collection rates, contamination, and ‘What Happens to my Waste’. These will be produced at appropriate times throughout the year, along with Campaigns from the disposal authority, WRAP, and local district initiatives perhaps in targeted areas.

3.7 The Council currently has several bring sites throughout the borough for residents to use ‘banks’ to dispose of textiles, books, shoes, CD’s and batteries. It is proposed to work with the provider of these banks to install more where capacity is requested. The Council will identify potential new locations. The tonnage collected from these sites also increases recycling rates.

#### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – None identified.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The update on the increased recycling and the associated reduction of waste going to landfill can only be considered as positive.
- Political – This will be welcomed by the public who genuinely want to recycle more.
- Reputation – This rise in the rate of recycling can only be good for the authority.

#### 5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Approve the contents covered in the proposed District Grant Fund Application.

ADRIAN HARPER  
HEAD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

For further information please ask for Adrian Harper on 01200 414523.

REF: Adrian Harper Community Services 07 01 2020